

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Substitute drawings of Figs. 8, 9A and 9B labelled as --Prior Art-- are submitted herewith pursuant to the Examiner's requirement set forth in numbered paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action.

Attachment: Two (2) Replacement Sheets illustrating Figs. 8, 9A and 9B

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are presently pending in this application, of which claims 8-14 were withdrawn from further consideration.

In accordance with the Examiner's request, Figs. 8, 9A and 9B are hereby labelled as "Prior Art". Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Although not objected to, minor editorial amendments are hereby made to the specification to correct typographical errors.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In response, claims 1 and 3 are hereby amended, and claim 2 is cancelled. Also, withdrawn claims 8-14 are hereby cancelled without prejudice and/or disclaimer. From the Examiner's comments at the top of page 3, it appears that the Examiner simply misunderstands the meaning of the "offset" recited in the claims. This feature is clearly explained in the middle of page 9 of the specification, and also in the middle of page 10. The Examiner is respectfully directed to these portions of the specification. Also, the foregoing amendments to claim 1 (in combination with the remarks below) should help clarify this feature for the Examiner, as well as more clearly distinguishing the claimed invention from the prior art.

In each of Prophet, Walsh and JP '708, there is no "protruding portion" of the second resin layer. The Examiner equates the "wavy surface" in these references to the protruding portion, but this is clearly incorrect and inconsistent with the present invention. For example, these "wavy surfaces" of the lens are not bonded to the first resin layer. Moreover, the claimed "offset" is between the boundary between the first and second layers and the back side of the second layer adjacent to the protruding portion, as shown by way of example in Fig. 5 of the instant application. This feature is clearly neither taught nor suggested by Prophet, Walsh or JP '708 (or any combination of those references). Also, the Examiner refers to the offset as a "space" or "chamber" between the lens and the housing, but this clearly has nothing to do with the offset as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable and that claims 3-7 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Since all of the pending claims are believed to be allowable, and since the application is otherwise believed to be in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to pass this application to issue at the earliest possible time.

If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/825,682

ART UNIT 1772
Q81126

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

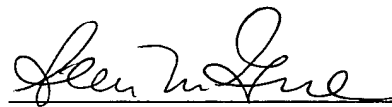
Respectfully submitted,

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